

May 2013

IN THIS EDITION



Music off Main concert series features Garner talent. See page 3.



Town seeks volunteers for Independence Day celebration. See page 3.

TOWN HALL SCHEDULE

May 21: Town Council meeting (7 p.m.)

May 27: MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY (Town offices closed)

May 28: Town Council work session (6 p.m.)

June 3: Town Council meeting (7 p.m.)

Meetings are in the Council Chambers in Building B at Town Hall, 900 Seventh Ave. Town Council meetings are recorded and broadcast (not live) on GTV11 (Time Warner 11, AT&T U-verse 99).



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GARNER UPDATE

Vol. 53, No. 59



Scotty McCreery (right) made a contribution to Garner's All-America City campaign after learning more about it from Mayor Ronnie Williams (left) and Town Manager Hardin Watkins (center).

Scotty McCreery Gives Back to His Hometown

It was Scotty McCreery Day in Garner on May 14, and McCreery – who took time off from his busy schedule to return home – marked the occasion by giving back to his hometown in several ways.

The season 10 “American Idol” winner first paid a surprise visit to his old elementary school, Timber Drive, and donated seven new Lenovo computers to his former music teacher, Beth Palmieri. The donation was made possible by a partnership between McCreery and the Morrisville-based Lenovo.

The country music star next went to the Community of Hope Ministries food pantry at First Baptist Church of Garner and delivered several cases

of peanut butter. The donation was part of McCreery’s efforts to promote DoSomething.org’s Peanut Butter and Jam Slam, a campaign running through May 21 that encourages young people to help fight hunger in their communities.

McCreery then went to Garner Town Hall and made a contribution to Garner’s All-America City campaign after learning more about it from Mayor Ronnie Williams and Town Manager Hardin Watkins. The donation helped Garner exceed its \$25,000 fundraising goal for All-America City efforts. “This town’s given a lot to me through the years,” McCreery said. “It’s important for me to give back to the town.”



Tout Garner as an All-America City on Twitter using #AllAmericaCity in your tweets.



A Message from the Mayor



Watch the mayor's 'Great People in Garner' on GTV11 (Time Warner 11, AT&T U-verse 99).

Everyone knows how I like to brag on Garner, but the last few weeks have made me prouder than ever of this town's community spirit.



Last month, the Town Council set a fundraising goal for Garner's All-America City efforts—\$25,000.

Council agreed to match that amount with Town funds.

Well, with the help of Town Manager Hardin Watkins, I started making phone calls to local businesses and individuals whom we thought might have the means and inclination to make contributions to the All-America City campaign—the centerpiece of which is a trip by our community's delegation to Denver June 14-16 to compete for the prestigious award.

The result? As of press time for this newsletter, we have pledges of \$37,000 from the private sector in

our community. Amazing. Everyone was so enthusiastic and so positive—and also certain that Garner is truly an All-America City.

The Town will be publicly thanking our donors in due time, but for now, let me just offer each of you my own heartfelt thanks. I can assure you that our delegation is working hard to be victorious in Denver!

Ronnie S. Williams

Ronnie S. Williams



A Place of Honor

A veteran reads text on the Garner Veterans Memorial after the dedication ceremony for the memorial on May 4. Garner will have its annual Memorial Day observance on Monday, May 27 at 1 p.m. at the memorial, located in Lake Benson Park at 921 Buffalo Road.



Report Issues

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<http://goo.gl/A7TZw>

<http://goo.gl/6dIBI>

<http://goo.gl/i5eq3>

You can also report issues online at garnernc.gov or text (617) 500-3111.

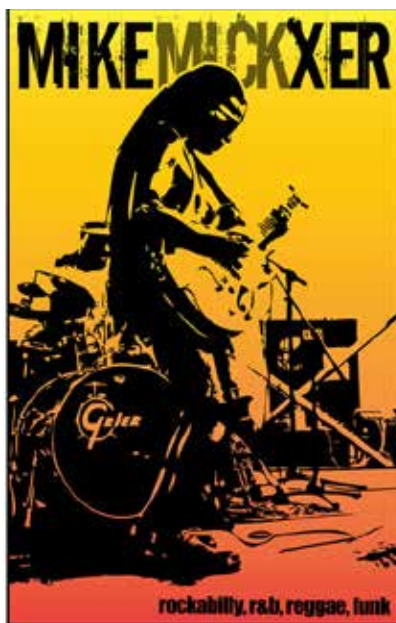


Music off Main Concert Series on GPAC Campus Features Garner Talent this Season

The Music off Main FREE concert series on the back lawn of Garner Performing Arts Center kicked off its sixth season on May 9 with a show by local singer Amanda Daughtry. This season features a lot of homegrown talent. Here's a look at the rest of the 2013 lineup:

MikeMickXer plays the second Music off Main show on Thursday, June 6. MikeMickXer is Mike Davis, Mick Voiland and Gary Grier – Garner-area musicians, each well-known in the Triangle area, who have come together to blend the unique sounds of rockabilly, reggae, R&B and funk for a show that keeps everyone on their feet.

The Band Heartbeat plays Thursday, June 20. The group will take you on a ride through the soulful sounds of Motown, the down-home country feel of Nashville, the electrifying hot sounds of rock, and to the final destination—the beaches of Carolina, with R&B's smooth funky grooves and beach tunes. And, their



MikeMickXer play the next Music off Main show on June 6.

home base is right here in Garner's emerging arts and cultural district.

Honey, Garner's very own dance band, plays Aug. 15, and Old Habits, who blend bluegrass, rock and country, close out the series this season with a show on Sept. 19.

All of the shows are from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Parking is available at the GPAC main entrance at 742 W. Garner Road and throughout the Avery Street campus, located at 125 Avery St.

Bring your chairs or blankets, but coolers are not allowed. Family-friendly food and beverages are available for purchase.

In addition to local performers, the shows this season will feature local artists, products and businesses in a new initiative, Market off Main, during each concert.

The concert series is presented by the Garner Revitalization Association.



Learn more about GRA at downtowngarner.com.



Movie/Camping Rescheduled

The Family Friday Flick and Camping Night scheduled for May 17 at Lake Benson Park (921 Buffalo Road) was canceled due to the threat of inclement weather. It has been rescheduled for Friday, May 24. Those who registered to camp on May 17 can transfer their paid registration fees to the "Wreck-It Ralph"

screening on May 24, to the "Madagascar 3" movie/camping night on June 14 or request a refund. Call (919) 773-4442 for more information. To register to camp, visit garnernc.gov and click on the movie night banner. The movies are FREE and do not require registration; they begin around 8:30 p.m.

Town Seeking July 3 Volunteers

The Town of Garner's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department is seeking volunteers for Garner's annual Independence Day Celebration on Wednesday, July 3 at Lake Benson Park.

Volunteers will assist Town staff in a variety of ways to help make the event successful, including working on arts and crafts, games, balloons, setup/cleanup and more. Volunteers will receive a free T-shirt and meal. Residents must be 16 years of age or older to participate. The registration deadline is Monday, June 24. To get involved, contact Nicole Sweat at (919) 773-4441 or nsweat@garnernc.gov.



Garner PD Canine Units Snag Awards

The Garner Police Department's canine units recently won several awards and finished first as a team in a certification event held in Holly Springs.

There were 21 dogs from nine different agencies across North and South Carolina. The canines were certified in obedience, suspect search, agility, article search and apprehension with and without gunfire.

Individually, Officer Greg Holding and Mackey finished second overall with second in apprehension and third in article search. Officer Eric Ankarstran and Gunnar finished fifth overall with a third-place individual finish in obedience. Officer Sonny Roberson and Bear finished third in apprehension.

"I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of our canine units," Garner Police Chief Brandon Zuidema said. "They are individually and collectively tremendous assets to the Garner Police Department and our community. They are committed to being the best police officers and canine teams, and I would put them up against any others in North Carolina."



The award-winning canine units and team (left to right) are Officer Greg Holding and Mackey; Officer Sonny Roberson and Bear; Officer David Taylor and Bandit; and Officer Eric Ankarstran and Gunnar.

The chief pointed out that the department's canine handlers have daily responsibilities with their dogs, still work full-time as patrol officers and often have to adjust their work schedules to train and meet the needs of the position.

"Each of the handlers is also a husband and father in their 'spare time,'" he added.

This year's certification followed

up last year when the department's canine units finished second as a team and each handler/dog received individual awards.

The Garner Police Department uses the United States Police Canine Association to certify the department's canines. The certification of each canine helps verify the reliability of the dog for court purposes and reduces civil liability in a police canine deployment.

GPD Promotes Three Officers

The Garner Police Department promoted three officers in a ceremony held last month at Town Hall. Joey Binns was promoted from sergeant to lieutenant, Sophia Sandlin from platoon leader to sergeant and Troy Young from platoon leader to sergeant. Pictured in the photo (from left) are Chief Brandon Zuidema, Sgt. Sandlin, Sgt. Young and Lt. Binns.



Correction

An article in last month's Garner Update about the Town earning several communications awards misidentified the Garner police officer who helped on the "Around Town: Special Edition – Garner Police" television program. The officer who lent her assistance in developing the idea for the program was Sgt. Lorie Smith (the version of the newsletter on garnernc.gov has been updated to reflect this).



Follow Garner PD on Twitter (@GarnerPolice).